

Message Text

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ACTION NSF-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 ABF-01 EB-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HEW-08 EPA-04

AGR-20 NASA-04 SMI-01 DODE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 INT-08

HUD-02 LOC-01 DRC-01 /094 W
----- 065311

R 131230Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5131

UNCLAS TUNIS 2164

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OSCI, TS

SUBJ: NSF/SFCP UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PROJECT

REF: SELCUK/LOGAN TELCON APRIL 2

1. DURING MEETING APRIL 11 TO DISCUSS SUBJECT PROPOSAL, DR. LATIRI STATED HE HAS SENT LETTER TO SELCUK/NSF OUTLINING ENIT'S POSITION ON PROPOSAL. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT IF FUNDS TO BE OBLIGATED THIS YEAR, APPROVED PROPOSAL MUST BE RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON BY END OF APRIL. LATIRI UNDERSTOOD THIS, BUT SAID HE COULD NOT AGREE TO NSF REQUEST THAT SOME OF PERSONNEL SUPPORT PROVIDED IN ORIGINAL PROJECT BUDGET SHOULD BE RESTORED AND SFCP FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE USED PRIMARILY TO PURCHASE IMPORTED EQUIPMENT, AS HAD BEENV PROPOSED BY ENIT. FIRST BUDGET, LATIRI SAID, HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN BY ENIT AS UNACCEPTABLE AND HE WAS NOT GOING TO AUTHORIZE "CHANGING DINARS INTO DOLLARS TO PAY AMERICAN SALARIES." IF THIS WAS NSF POSITION, LATIRI SAID AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED PROPOSAL WAS DEAD, AT LEAST FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR.

2. IN CLOSING, LATIRI SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING LETTER FROM SELCUK GIVING REASONS LATEST BUDGET NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCEPTABLE AND MENTIONED HE WOULD BE ATTENDING CONFERENCE

IN BOSTON AT END OF APRIL AND HAD SENT CABLE TO
SELCUK ASKING FOR MEETING IN WASHINGTON
T THIS TIME.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY RELUCTANTLY CONCLUDES THAT UNLESS NSF CAN PRE-
VAIL UPON LATIRI TO REVISE HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD USE OF SFCP FUND
THIS PROPOSED VALUABLE PROJECT UNLIKELY BE IMPLEMENTED
IN NEAR FUTURE. GIVEN GOT GROWING SENSITIVITIES TO USE
OF DINARS, BELIEVE WE WOULD BE OPEN TO FUTURE TUNISIAN
CRITICISM IF WE AGREED TO LATIRI POSITION THAT SFCP FUNDS
WOULD BE USED PRIMARILY FOR PURCHASE OF IMPORTED
EQUIPMENT. THIS WOULD APPEAR TO GOT AS CLEAR FOREIGN EXCHANGE
DRAIN.
SEELYE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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